

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /113 W

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R 281739Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7362

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4549

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, IZ

SUBJ: GRECHKO VISIT TO IRAQ

1. EGYPTIAN EMBOFF TELLS US HE HAS HEARD THAT SOVIET DEFENSE MINISTER GRECHKO'S MAIN ITEM OF BUSINESS IN IRAQ WAS TO TRY TO SELL HARD-LINE KURDS ON AUTONOMY PLAN OFFERED BY IRAQI GOVERNMENT. EGYPTIAN NOTED CONSISTENT SOVIET INTEREST IN STABILIZING IRAQI-KURDISH RELATIONS AND SOVIET SUPPORT FOR IRAQ GOVERNMENT'S PROCLAMATION OF AUTONOMY. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT THINK KURDISH PROBLEM WAS CAUSE OF GRECHKO'S VISIT, WHICH HAD BEEN EXPECTED FOR SOME TIME.

2. IRANIAN EMBASSY IS APPARENTLY PEDDLING SIMILAR REPORT THAT GRECHKO'S IRAQI SOJOURN IS CONNECTED WITH KURDISH PROBLEM. BRITISH EMBOFF HAS ALSO TOLD US THAT SOVIETS ASSURED TEHRAN THAT GRECHKO VISIT SHOULD GIVE IRAN NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN.

STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLICIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINORITIES, SELFGOVERNMENT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW04549
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740068-0756
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974038/aaaaagxw.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GRECHKO VISIT TO IRAQ
TAGS: PFOR, UR, IZ, KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY, BAATH PARTY, KDP, (GRECHKO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005